

The West Virginian

"THE PAPER THAT GOES HOME"

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WEDNESDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 18, 1918.



THE AMERICAN'S CREED.

I believe in the United States of America as a government of the people, by the people, for the people, whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed; a democracy in a republic, a sovereign Nation of many sovereign States; a perfect Union, one and inseparable, established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice, and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes. I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it; to support its Constitution; to obey its laws; to respect its flag; and to defend it against all enemies.

PUT A REAPER ON THE FLAG.

An oil derrick is the symbol of enterprise and of the triumph of man over nature the world over, but no one can honestly say that they are things of beauty, and it does not surprise us in the least that some of the members of the Chamber of Commerce were a bit doubtful about the one which stands out so prominently in the prize design for a Fairmont municipal flag which the chamber approved at its meeting Monday evening.

Moreover Fairmont never was either an oil or gas city, in spite of the fact that both elements are plentiful within the limits of the county. We heartily agree, therefore, that before a flag design is officially adopted by the city government something else should be put in the corner now occupied by the derrick. A manufacturing plant, the conventional symbol of industry, has been suggested, but we think we can recommend something which is superior to that and which, if the idea is properly worked out, will give Fairmont a city flag which no other municipality in the world can copy or use.

In a number of the designs that were submitted in the flag contest an effort was made to link the present city up with the pioneer days. Old mills and log cabins were used, for instance. Yet no one thought to make use of the biggest historical event that ever took place here—the construction of the first power reaper the world ever saw. That took place a number of years before the Civil war in a little machine shop and wagon works located in what was then called Palatine.

The world would have starved to death long ago if some one somewhere had not invented that machine. It may be contended that it was merely the result of evolution and that it was bound to come when the need for it developed, but that does not lessen the historical value of the fact that when Cyrus H. McCormick had worked it out in his head he came here to build it and made a little shop on the east side of the river within the present corporate limits of Fairmont the center of his operations while he was rough hewing the machine and teaching the farmers that they needed it, and Fairmont ought to make more of the incident than it ever has in the past.

We think, therefore, that a picture of an old McCormick reaper ought to be put in the corner of the sketch in the center of the flag which the derrick now occupies. That being done the Board of Affairs ought formally to adopt

the design as the Fairmont municipal flag. Unless we are mistaken it will be the first city flag in West Virginia if that is done.

RAILROAD IMPROVEMENTS.

WE quite agree with those members of the Chamber of Commerce who believe that it is quite proper now to make an effort to get the railroad facilities of this city improved, but nothing will come of the efforts unless two things are thoroughly understood by every one—that the city ought to know exactly what it wants in the way of improvements, and that the problem is no longer divided into two parts, separated by the river, as in pre-war days.

No matter what happens in railway ownership there never will be a return to separate operation. Fairmont must learn to study its transportation problem, both with regard to passenger and freight traffic, on a basis of both roads in one system. We know this will seem like an outrage to some local business people, but these people had better make up their minds to make the best of what seems to them to be a bad situation. The advantages of joint operation have been proved in the school of experience and the American people are too practical ever to turn their backs upon such a lesson.

And if we are to get anything done within the next year the effort must be directed against either the Railroad administration itself or the director of the region in which the Fairmont roads are included. This ought to be a relief to Fairmont. Years of fruitless working with the managements of the individual roads have made most people in this city doubtful of the value of railroad promises. Perhaps if the case is properly prepared something more substantial than promises may be secured from the present directors of the roads.

SAFEGUARDING HEALTH.

IT is a pity every person in Fairmont could not hear the lecture on influenza which Dr. Aaron Arkin, of West Virginia University faculty, delivered yesterday at the High school to the teachers of the city schools. A somewhat extensive report of what Dr. Arkin said is printed this evening and we urge our readers to peruse it thoughtfully.

We especially commend this report to the earnest attention of the city authorities. It is a fact that a great deal of the sickness which the people of this country suffer would not occur if the health laws were vigorously enforced. It is now recognized that municipal governments have no more important function than the preservation of the health of the public, and it is high time more attention were paid to this duty in the city of Fairmont.

President Wilson has wireless his approval of Secretary Redfield's suggestion that business advisers be attached to American embassies and legations. The country too will approve. This is dollar diplomacy of a kind the public will never have occasion to feel ashamed of.

The Times' Christmas fund is growing splendidly, but it is apparent that there is going to be need for every dollar the generous people of the county can give it this year. Even Santa Claus finds that it takes twice as much money now to attain a given result as it used to.

The decision to postpone indefinitely the meeting of the West Virginia State Educational association because the health conditions at Wheeling are bad is to be regretted. It was expected that the new school code which will be offered for enactment by the coming session of the legislature would come up for discussion at this meeting and that much valuable criticism by men and women who have given a life time study to educational problems would result. If it is at all possible there should be some general conference of teachers to consider the code as it has been framed by the commission before it is turned over to the not always tender mercies of a law making body that always knows more about petty politics than it does about school management. Practically the only way in which to secure the enactment of the code as it was drafted is to build up such a body of popular opinion behind it that the law makers will not dare to tamper with it.

The quick way in which representatives of the mine operators and officers of the United Mine Workers arrived at a complete understanding at their conference in this city yesterday is evidence of a most gratifying harmony in the territory covered by the Northern West Virginia Coal Operators' association. As long as this prevails both mine workers and mine operators in this district will enjoy prosperous times even if there is a let down from the war time demand for coal.

Washington dispatches have it that a movement is on foot to bring about a continuation of the government supervision of food distribution and sale with the idea of checking the tendency to profiteering. This is bound to come, but it might as well be recognized early that not much of the experience of the Hoover regime will prove of benefit in devising a system for controlling prices. Mr. Hoover's chief aim was to reduce consumption and prevent speculation. He did little or nothing toward driving prices down to a fair level, and just there is the big consideration right now. We have no doubt, however, that Mr. Hoover could offer some highly valuable suggestions along that line if he were asked.

Well, we hope their heads do not ache too much.

Last year when we needed nice weather the worst way we were having a Dickens of a time, but now that it does not much matter the weather man is handing out the finest kind.

Can't the peace conference do something about that too?

If it can fix the Russian muddle, the weather ought to prove easy.

Well, if you haven't got this Christmas shopping done yet this is to remind you that the time is getting short.

Short also to get in on the Christmas fund run by the Astonishers.

And to sign up with the Red Cross for another year.

It won't be a regular Christmas unless you do all these things.

LAUREL POINT

Mrs. Daisy Henry, from Kentucky, is spending a few days here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Martin. Glen Henry and wife spent the Sunday with Mrs. Virginia Henry.

News was received here last Thursday morning that Gilbert Neely, one of our boys who has been in France about four months, was missing in action. His friends have received no word from him since about September 10.

Word was also received by the parents of Jay Guthrie that he was missing in action. The most of the boys who went into service from near this place have

been heard from since November 11.

Frank Mercer, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Mercer, died at the home of his parents here on Wednesday morning, December 11, after an illness extending over the period of one year. He took treatment at the City Hospital at Morgantown last fall, then went to the Johns Hopkins hospital at Baltimore, where he seemed to be benefited somewhat, but gave no promise of restoration to health, and but a short lease on life. His health began to fail rapidly in the early summer, his suffering being intense at times. His malady was of a cancerous nature. He was aged 33 years, and leaves, beside his parents, two sisters, Mrs. Nona Baker and Mrs. Nellie Gidley, both of Morgantown. It will be recalled that his only brother, Guy Mercer, was killed in action in France and reinterred a few weeks ago. The funeral services were conducted by Rev. George W. White on Friday morning. The W. O. W. of Morgantown, of which he was a member, also conducted services at the grave. Interment was made in the Dent's Run cemetery.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Ridgway left Saturday for a visit with Mrs. Alice Stevens at Fairmont.

Mrs. Nellie Gidley is spending a few days with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Mercer.

Joseph Mercer, of Westover, was here Friday for the funeral of his nephew, C. F. Mercer.

Dana Snider, of Hildebrand, was among his friends here last Sunday.

Home baked Pies and Pastries. Boy's Restaurant. Adv.

MONONGAH

Returned Home.

Mrs. D. Saw has returned from Cook hospital where she had been a patient for a few weeks. Mrs. Shaw's condition is much improved and her many friends are glad of her return.

Personals.

Mrs. June Orr was shopping in Fairmont Thursday.
Miss Midge Lawson was a shopper in Fairmont.
Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Fleming were in Fairmont yesterday.

Mrs. Ora Spragg was a Christmas shopper in Fairmont.
Mrs. Wm. Kerns was shopping in Fairmont.

Miss Hallie Orr was a caller in Fairmont.
Mrs. Roy Addis was an out of town caller.

Mrs. Fleming, of Fleming's Crossing, was a caller in Monongah.
Mrs. Harry Bice and son, Fred, were out of town callers.

Sergeant Frank Olivato was a social caller in Fairmont.
Mrs. C. B. Hall was calling in Fairmont.

Jim Gregory was a business caller in Fairmont.
Private Fred Cochran was a social caller in Fairmont.

Private Jim Mike was in Fairmont Tuesday.
Mr. and Mrs. Howard Meredith were social callers in Fairmont.

Mr. and Mrs. Aden Blocker were in Fairmont attending the show.
Marvin Morris was a social caller in Fairmont.

Hershel Smith was an out of town caller.
Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Honaker were social callers in Fairmont.

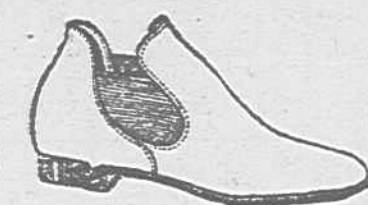
Frank Fuqua, B. & O. division operator, was in Monongah attending to business at the B. & O. station.
Miss Bernice Kling and John Mort were Christmas shoppers in Fairmont last evening.

TODAY IN STATE HISTORY

Meade Post No. 6, Grand Army of the Republic, was organized at Fairmont on December 18, 1881, by W. H. Flick, department commander, assisted by H. V. Daniels, A. A. G. and Capt. E. G. Bartlett, of Lincoln Post at Martinsburg. The following officers were elected for the year of 1882: Thomas M. Fleming, S. V. C.; James W. Shroyer, J. V. C.; Simon F. Shore, adjutant; Rufus E. Harr, quartermaster; Dr. J. H. Brownfield, surgeon; Thomas C. Miller, chaplain; R. C. Dunnington, O. D.; Sidney W. Satterfield, O. G.; Charles E. Watts, S. M.; and Eli Musgrave, Q. M. A. The post was organized with 22 members.

Give a Man Slippers for Christmas

Every evening of the year after a hard day's grind he will think of your thoughtfulness.



Styles like cut in black and tan kid

\$1.85 to \$3.25

Other styles in leather and felt

\$1.25 to \$3.00

See our women's and children's comfort slippers

\$1.00 to \$2.50

SHURTLEFF & WELTON

More Open Evenings

Until After Xmas.

Many New Things in Leather

Pocket-books, purses Cases for men, leather novelties of various kinds. Fine ideas and in very clever qualities. True leathers properly dressed.

CRANE'S Drug Store

We Guarantee All Goods

Courtney's Store

True Values

108-110 Main St.

Our Telephone is No. 55-R.

Who Wouldn't Buy a New Winter Suits at Such Prices?

What to Give "Her"

There are certain gifts at which a woman smiles and then drops in her bureau drawer and forgets about. Those are NOT the kind to give!

There are others that she appreciates and uses, because they are practical and useable. Those are the BEST gifts—and they are best bought at this store. And BEST bought NOW—before the last minute RUSH!

If It's Personal Gifts, Things for One's Girl Friends—Then Philippine Hand-Embroidered Under-Things!



Sheer, dainty gowns and envelope chemise. Some just scalloped and eyelets while others are much more elaborately embroidered.

\$2.75 to \$4.75

Made in the great outdoors by our little, brown adopted brothers and sisters over there in the Philippine Islands.

A Economical Gift Manboco Petticoats—Washable Silk and Cotton combination. Only \$3.25

Use your Sense and Sentiment in Buying Gloves—



Providing they are good gloves—Courtney's Gloves are of the best make known. Grace Kid—popular 2 class. In Tan, Brown, Champagne, Grey, Black, White. Both Self and contrasting stitchings. No shortage here now—Priced

\$2.25 to \$3.75

Clearaway of Suits that Mark the Height of Value Giving!



Here is the big opportunity of the season to buy a New Winter Suit for Less than you ever Expected to Pay! Here are Suits of a truly good kind—Courtney's Suits—hard to equal at the first fair price—beyond comparison now at these prices:

Group One—Comprising Suits that formerly sold at \$18.50 to \$25.00 **\$15**

Group Two—Comprising Suits that formerly sold at \$28.50 to \$42.50 **\$25**

Group Three—Comprising Suits that formerly sold at \$49.50 to \$75.00 **\$40**

The Extremely Low Prices Asked Prohibits Us From CHARGING or SENDING on APPROVAL any SUIT DURING THIS SALE.

Clever Little Hats.

For Immediate Wear—Trimmed with Fur Fabric and smart little touches of embroidery. Odd—different original and come in a number of colors. The Price is surprisingly little.

\$5.00

The Veils That Should Be Worn

with these Little hats are here in great quantities. New Arrivals of the Slipon type. You will think the price very moderate.

35c, 40c, 45c

Gift Waists of Georgette at \$4.75



So many like to give or to receive a beautiful waist, that it is a matter of great interest to have an idea of the truly wonderful values that these models represent. Five different styles—Some have the round necks, while others are high neck models—many V neck, of course Colors are the Suits colors most in demand—Beige, Grey, Copen, etc., as well as White and Flesh. Without doubt the Best Blouse Value that can be found anywhere—\$4.75.

Wise Persons Are Certainly Buying Handkerchiefs Now!

Speaking of things "moving" you should realize how fast gift-shopping folks are eating up our great host of Handkerchiefs. very day means we have to bring forth new ones from reserve and from the outlook tardy shoppers are going to be disappointed.

And speaking of variety—you wouldn't want a better variety. As for prices—Courtney's policy will guarantee that they are Right.

RIGHT NOW—the stock is complete—the most complete, by far, that we have ever shown.

ATTRACTING FIRST ATTENTION.

The Wonderful Showing at 25c

Customers realize their exceptional value at a glance—the heavy buying is ample proof—Get yours Today! Many are buying them by the dozen.

MORE HANDKERCHIEFS

Hosts of them in Swiss, Lawn, Dimity, Leno, Jay Silk and Crepe de Chine. Dainty colors and White. Plain hemstitched—daintily embroidered—and others edged with real lace.

From 18c all the way to \$1.50

Can You Use One of These Attractive NEW SWEATERS

Either for yourself or as a highly useful gift? An excellent assortment awaits your choosing. The prices will prove pleasing—

\$4.75 to \$12.50

Useful Gifts—Ready Box for Christmas giving!

Scores of boxes prepared daily and the price represents the best values we know of

Look Them Over Only 95 Cents

Reliable Advertising

Courtney's Store

Dependable Merchandise

Transfer and hauling done promptly and carefully. Call phone 698-J.

Thomas Caruso.

221 Meredith Street. (Rear of Court House)

MARION TRANSFER 124 Jackson Street.

All kinds of hauling promptly, carefully and reasonably done. Phone 1267.

Fairmont Transfer Co. Phone 517.

All kinds of hauling. Household goods a specialty. 324 Jefferson St.